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MAR 31 2003

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MAR 31 2003

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
TC 3600

In re Application of
John W. Rocheleau
Application No. 09/764,473
Filed: January 17, 2001
For: PIPE FLANGE AND PIPING SYSTEM

DECISION ON PETITION
TO WITHDRAW THE
HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT

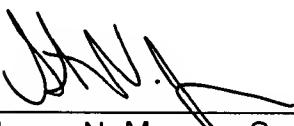
This is in response to applicant's correspondence filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 5, 2002 and supplemented by facsimile on March 21, 2003. This correspondence is being treated as a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

A review of the file record indicates that the application was held abandoned for failing to file a timely response to an Office communication dated April 3, 2002, and a notice to that effect was mailed to the applicant on November 6, 2002.

Applicant's petition includes a copy of a Notice of Appeal bearing a Certificate of Mailing date of August 28, 2002. A statement by Michael J. Perrson was received on March 21, 2003, which attests to the personal knowledge of mailing the response on the date indicated on the Certificate of Mailing. This is sufficient evidence of a timely response.

Since a timely response to the Office action was filed, the holding of abandonment is withdrawn and the application is restored to pending status. The application is being forwarded to the Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner for treatment of the Notice of Appeal and entry of the Amendment after Final Rejection filed with the petition, and then to the Examiner for prompt action on the merits of the application.


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SNM/tpl: 3/26/03